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GOVERNMENT WILL ESTABLISH GRADES

U. S. Department of Agriculture to Standarize all Tobacco Grades.

In order to assist in placing the marketing of tobacco upon a more business like basis, the United States department of agriculture is about to begin investigations which will lead to the establishing of tobacco grades applicable throughout the entire industry. Though tobacco ranks fourth among the crops of the United States returns more than $1,000,000,000 a year in agricultural wealth to the nation and more than $300,000,000 in annual revenue to the government, it is marketed in a manner which producers of less important crops would regard as a short cut to financial ruin.

For this condition the specialists of the bureau of markets, department of agriculture, blame primarily the auction system of sales in certain sections and the private contract system in other localities. Under the former method loose piles of tobacco to be sold are placed on the floor of a warehouse and examined by the prospective buyers. The tobacco is not graded, nor does the owner have much opportunity to describe the merits of his product. The auctioneer then offers the tobacco for sale and the buyers are practically in a position to obtain the tobacco for any price they choose to pay.

In the latter case the tobacco is sold privately by growers who usually have an indefinite idea of market prices, to buyers who are fully informed. The sales are frequently made on the farm and confirmed by contracts that are more binding on the seller than on the buyer. The sale often is made before the tobacco is harvested. At the time of the transaction the tobacco may be so far from being in a marketable condition that even the buyer is unable to determine its value in which case the farmer usually gets what the buyer estimates to be a safe price or chooses to offer.

In a bulletin published by the Massachusetts experiment station, it is stated that "under the contract method of sale, the farmer has all to lose, with no corresponding gain; the buyer, little or nothing." The same statement would apply equally as well to the "auction system," department specialists say

Because of lack of grades, the tobacco producer is unable to determine if he is receiving a reasonable price for his product. There is no basis for comparison between the prices paid in one community and those paid elsewhere. Quotations of one market usually mean little in other markets, for they are not based upon organized standards of quality.

In October the bureau of markets, United States department of agriculture, held hearing in a number of cities for the purpose of discussing with tobacco growers, merchants, dealers, bankers, warehousemen and others interested in the industry, tentative regulations for warehousing tobacco under the provisions of the United States warehouse act These hearings were attended by members of the trade who were representatives of the tobacco industry generally and considerable interest was shown in the bureau's work. At first there was an attitude of skepticism regarding the benefits to be derived from the warehousing of tobacco under the provisions of the warehouse act. Doubt was expressed that the bureau would be able to devise satisfactory tobacco standards, but in every instance, before the end of the hearing, the bureau's intention to take immediate action in carrying out its plans to place the marketing of tobacco upon a sound basis, was approved.

Under the provisions of the United States warehouse act, the secretary of agriculture is authorized to license warehouses for the storage of cotton, grain, flax seed, wool and tobacco. The chief purpose of the act, with respect to tobacco, is to establish a system of warehouses in which tobacco may be safely stored and through which the industry can more easily be financed and tobacco more advantageously marketed. To accomplish this purpose, the act is designed to provide a form of warehouse receipts which will be readily acceptable as security for loans. Any warehouse that adequately protects the tobacco stored therein may be licensed. The regulations under the act provide for inspection of the premises at irregular intervals, examinations of the commodities stored and observance by the warehouseman of standards of business practice.

Since the passage of the act, more than 300 applications for warehouse licenses have been received by the bureau of markets, the majority of them during the last year. Producers and warehousemen now appear to appreciate the benefits to be derived from the warehouse act. The bureau's regulations for the warehousing of tobacco are in the hands of the printers, and will be ready for general distribution in the near future. How soon tobacco grades will be recommended will depend upon the ability of the bureau to carry on the work with the limited funds at its command. The bureau has received many assurances of co operation by the tobacco industry.

Buckingham

On Friday Jan. 28 h there was a teachers meeting at Dillwyn that was unusually well attended and there were speakers galone. Speakers who could speak, speakers who thought they could, and speakers who really entertained those who listened. State Supt Hart and Miss Cole of the Red Cross belong in the first category I did not hear all of the speeches. There was a great feast of good things to eat

The candidates for the Legislature were on hand mixing with the dear people and they will soon become adepts at handshaking—John B. Boatwright and Dr. P. E. Tucker are the candidates

There were warehouse men asking for our patronage, one told me good tobacco was selling for about $20 on the Dillwyn market. There was a bad glut on the Farmville market for several days and I am told that prices declined as much as $5 in the hundred pounds Mr James L Baird only got $14 for his best, Mr Swill Morgan got $14 as an average price. A few wrappers sold on the Farmville market for more than $50 per hundred.

Mrs. W. J. Hubbard was quite unwell the past week as was also Miss Mary G. Glover

Raw sugar was quoted on the New York market the past week at 4 cents, which is said to be the lowest price quoted for the last two years.

Tuesday March 15, is the day for the opening of the spring term of circuit court here. The 2nd Tuesday in March is the 8 but our court opens on Tuesday after the 2nd Monday, which is the 15 h

On Feb. 12th there is to be a meeting here of the Red Cross forces of this county.

A private letter received here says the snow of last week was the deepest had in North Carolina for two years and the papers say the snow storm reached as far south as Atlanta Georgia

The scientific teachers of farming have done a lot of talking to the farmers, but very little has been done on the farms so far, in a practical way. Mr. Gordon Elcan and Mr. Rogers have been traveling together over the county demonstrating. I havn't seen a plant patch burned in the county, but they will be burned while this open spell lasts I am told that guano will be some cheaper and I hear some men saying they are not going to buy any this year at all. Local farmers are asking $1 50 a bushel for winter seed oats and with fertilizers what they were last fall it would hardly pay to sow oats.

Good Roads in Virginia

Every Virginian is at heart a good roads advocate He may differ with his neighbor over ways and means to secure them, but if he can be convinced that they are procurable without undue burden his answer will be "Go ahead." It is the purpose of the Virginia Good Roads Association to spread such convincing argument for better highways into every nook and corner of the State, and to that end it is sending out its trucks, its movies and its literature. To make this campaign of education as complete as possible, Every Virginian who does not now belong should feel it incumbent upon him to demonstrate his interest by becoming a member. The drive for membership has been extended, and all one needs is a dollar and a desire to see Virginia lift itself out of the mud.

Virginia, with its constitutional restrictions removed by the votes of the people, is at the beginning of a great road building era, which in the next ten years should metamorphose the State whose name is anathema to tourists into one that will be the Mecca for travelers from all over America drawn by its splendid highways leading to its thousands of points of historic interest Such a metamorphosis can be brought about if the people will it so.

There has been fear on the part of some that under the changed administration and the cry for national economy the Federal road aid might be discontinued, to the serious disruption of Virginia's road building program Such a contingency is not probable, although it is likely to change will be made in the method of expending the Federal funds Such funds, it is generally conceded, should be confined to the great cross country roads, North and South, East and West, constituting Federal highways connecting every State, and with which the State network of highways would be joined. It would mean an end to haphazard, piecemeal road building, and the construction of a durable system of hard-surfaced highways for the entire country Such a determination on the part of the Federal government would have the hearty sanction of Virginia

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F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.
Sold by all Druggists, 75c.

IN the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Appomattox, on the 21st day of December, 1920

L Wilkerson ..... Plaintiff
against
Bernice Wilkerson ..... Defendant

The object of this suit is to obtain a divorce from the bonds of matrimony upon the grounds of abandonment and desertion, in conformity with Chapter 39 of the Acts of Assembly of Virginia, 1912, as amended by section 5105 of the Code of Virginia, 1919

And an affidavit having been made and filed that the defendant, Bernice Wilkerson is not a resident of the State of Virginia, it is ordered that she do appear here within ten days after due publication hereof, and do what may be necessary to protect her interest in the suit. And it is further ordered that a copy hereof be published in the Times Virginian a newspaper published in the county of Appomattox, and that a copy be posted at the front door of the court house of this county on the 3rd day of January, 1921, that being the next succeeding rule day after this order was entered

A Copy—Teste:
C W SMITH, Clerk
Hester & Hester, p q [54w

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Was Very Weak

"After the birth of my baby I had a back-set," writes Mrs. Mattie Crosswhite, of Glade Spring, Va. "I was very ill; thought I was going to die. I was so weak I couldn't raise my head to get a drink of water. I took . . . medicine, yet I didn't get any better. I was constipated and very weak, getting worse and worse. I sent for Cardui."

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Norfolk & Western

Effective Jan. 23, 1921.
Appomattox, Virginia
WESTBOUND.

No. 3, 1:35 p m for the west and southwest; sleeper Norfolk to Cincinnati, and Columbus; Dining car connects at Roanoke for Bristol Stops to take on passengers for beyond Walton

11:28 p. m for Bluefield, Bristol Stops only for passengers for beyond Walton

No. 15, 1:34 a. m for the west and southwest Sleeper to Bristol, and Columbus, Ohio. Dining car. Stops to take on passengers for beyond Walton

No. 7 10:28 a m daily for Lynchburg

No. 5, 6:20 p m daily for Lynchburg and Roanoke Parlor car

No. 41 Leaves Lynchburg (Southern Railway Station) 8:28 a m for Bristol and the South. Sleepers to New Orleans. Cafe dining cars

No 25 Leaves Lynchburg (Southern Railway Station) 9:05 a m for Knoxville, Chattanooga, Memphis, Nashville Sleepers, Dining car

EASTBOUND

No. 4, 11 a. m. daily for Petersburg, Norfolk, Richmond Stops to take on passengers for Petersburg or beyond

No. 6, 9:28 a. m. Local daily for Petersburg Connects at Petersburg for Norfolk and Richmond. Parlor car

No. 43, 4 p m daily for petersburg, Richmond, Norfolk. Sleeper, Cafe car. Stops to take on passengers for beyond Petersburg

No 8 4:50p m For Petersburg and local stations

For further information apply to agent N W Railway or

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